# PhD position Bottom-up initiative on the energy market (1.0 fte) (215014)

### Organisation

The University of Groningen offers a junior researcher position on the 'The power of the neighbourhood: The success and spread of bottom-up initiative on the energy market'. The project is funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and aims to study which individual and social factors explain, predict and influence the success and spread of local initiative on the energy market.

You will work together with researchers from the University of Groningen and the Hanze University of Applied Sciences. Also, you will collaborate with Enexis, an energy network complete that aims with 'Buurkracht' to support local initiatives on the energy market. You will conduct questionnaire studies with a longitudinal set up to examine which individual-level and group-level factors affect whether citizens take initiative, and/or become and stay involved in local energy initiatives. You will conduct these studies in the field. In addition, you will examine how involvement in local energy initiatives predicts energy saving behaviour. In the final two years of your project, you will extend your insights by conducting additional studies in the field and in the lab.

You will publish the results of your studies in international scientific journals, which will be part of your PhD thesis. Moreover, you will present your studies at international conferences. You will devote part of your working time to teaching courses within the Department of Psychology. You will be a member of the Environmental Psychology Group, and your research will be embedded in the Research Program Interpersonal Behaviour and in the Dutch Kurt Lewin Institute.

## Job description

The University of Groningen offers a junior researcher position on the 'The power of the neighbourhood: The success and spread of bottom-up initiative on the energy market'. The project is funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and aims to study which individual and social factors explain, predict and influence the success and spread of local initiative on the energy market.

You will work together with researchers from the University of Groningen and the Hanze University of Applied Sciences. Also, you will collaborate with Enexis, an energy network complete that aims with 'Buurkracht' to support local initiatives on the energy market. You will conduct questionnaire studies with a longitudinal set up to examine which individual-

level and group-level factors affect whether citizens take initiative, and/or become and stay involved in local energy initiatives. You will conduct these studies in the field. In addition, you will examine how involvement in local energy initiatives predicts energy saving behaviour. In the final two years of your project, you will extend your insights by conducting additional studies in the field and in the lab.

You will publish the results of your studies in international scientific journals, which will be part of your PhD thesis. Moreover, you will present your studies at international conferences. You will devote part of your working time to teaching courses within the Department of Psychology. You will be a member of the Environmental Psychology Group, and your research will be embedded in the Research Program Interpersonal Behaviour and in the Dutch Kurt Lewin Institute.

#### Qualifications

We are looking for a PhD student who is highly motivated to work on this project, and is particularly interested in conducting theory-based research with a high societal relevance in the field. You have a creative, critical and independent research attitude. You can organize complex research projects. You can work independently, but can also collaborate in a team. You have recently completed a Master in Psychology with a focus on Social Psychology, or a scientific education that is closely related to this, or you expect to receive such a master degree soon. You are statistically skilled, and preferably have experience with complex data analysis. You have good communication skills in English and Dutch, both verbally and written.

## Conditions of employment

The University of Groningen offers a salary of  $\in$  2,125 gross per month in the first year of the appointment, rising to  $\in$  2,717 gross per month in the fourth year for a full time position. This temporary position lasts four years. You will first be appointed for a period of 12 months. After a positive evaluation, the contract will be extended for the remaining part of the project.

Intended starting date is as soon as possible.

The job interviews are scheduled at Monday 9 February 2015. Candidates can be asked to give a presentation.

Your application should include your motivation, curriculum vitae, individual mark sheets, and contact information of at least two academic references. You may apply for this position until 2 February 2015 by means of the application form.

Unsolicited marketing is not appreciated.

#### Information

For information you can contact:

- Prof. Linda Steg, phone +31 50 3636482 / +31 50 636386, <u>e.m.steg@rug.nl</u>
- Dr. Lise Jans: phone: +31 50 3636567, <a href="mailto:l.jans@rug.nl">l.jans@rug.nl</a>

#### Please, apply via:

 $\frac{\text{http://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/job-opportunities/overview?details=00347-02S0004DFP}$ 

## **Additional Information**

- Personal profile Prof. Linda Steg
- Personal profile Dr Lise Jans